

SYNNESTVEDT & LECHNER LLP

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION
DATED JUNE 9, 2006

Appln. No. 10/734,040

- 11 -

July 28, 2006

REMARKS

This is in response to the final Office Action dated June 9, 2006. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Summary of Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-14 are pending. Applicant acknowledges that Claims 4-6, 13 and 14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the recitation from their respective base claims and any intervening claims upon which they depend.

Summary of Rejections

Claims 1-3 and 7-12 are rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,621,840 to Foster.

Summary of Claim Amendments

Applicant has amended the claims consistent with the Examiner's remarks as to allowable subject matter. To that end, the subject matter of allowable Claim 4 has been incorporated into Claim 1, Claim 4 being canceled. The subject matter of allowable Claim 13 has been incorporated into Claim 10, Claim 13 being canceled. New Claims 16-18 have been added. Claim 16 combines the subject matter of Claims 1 and allowable Claim 5, Claim 17 combines the subject matter of allowable Claim 6 and Claim 1, and Claim 18 combines the subject matter of allowable Claim 14 and Claim 10, Claim 14 being canceled.

Applicant contends that the application is in condition for allowance because the claims, as amended, are allowable over the cited prior art consistent with the Examiner's

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- 12 -

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remarks. Applicant, therefore, requests that the application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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